



CITY HALL  
70 Maple Street  
Manistee, MI 49660  
[www.manisteemi.gov](http://www.manisteemi.gov)

Administration  
Fax 231.723.1546

City Manager  
231.398.2801

City Assessor  
231.398.2802

Planning & Zoning  
231.398.2805

Clerk/Treasurer  
Fax 231.723.5410

City Clerk  
231.398.2803

City Treasurer/  
Finance Director  
231.398.2804

Water Billing  
231.723.2559

Police Department  
231.723.2533  
Fax 231.398.2012

Fire Department  
281 First Street  
231.723.1549  
Fax 231.723.3519

Department of  
Public Works  
280 Washington St.  
• Street Department  
• Parks Department  
• Water Maintenance  
280 Washington St.  
231.723.7132  
Fax 231.723.1803

Clean Water  
Recovery Facility  
50 Ninth St.  
231.723.1553

January 25, 2022

Dear Taxpayer,

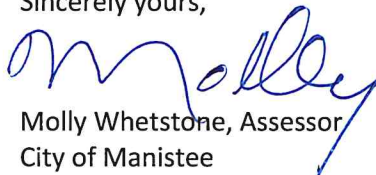
Please find the enclosed 2022 Hardship Application to fill out for 2022. Please read the Guidelines. You will need your application filled in Completely along with Form 5739, Affirmation of Ownership and Occupancy to Remain Exempt by Reason of Poverty, this is a new requirement. If you are not required to file Income Tax with the I.R.S. or the State of Michigan you will need to fill out Form 4988, Poverty Exemption Affidavit. **Please know and understand that incomplete applications will be DENIED by the Board of Review.**

We do require proof of income. The Board of Review **CAN NOT deviate from the guidelines.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call at 231-398-2802 And we will answer your questions and help you in any way we can.

You may drop off your application at 70 Maple Street, Manistee, MI 49660 attention City Assessor.

Sincerely yours,



Molly Whetstone, Assessor  
City of Manistee

*Soul of the Water. Spirit of the Woods*



**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POVERTY  
GUIDELINES FOR EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY  
TAX CONTRIBUTIONS  
FOR 2022**

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the Board of Review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 253 of 2020 (MLC 211.7u) and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to PA 253, 2020, City of Manistee, Manistee County adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and assets levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household in the current or immediately preceding year;

**PROCESS:**

To file a poverty exemption from property tax contribution in City of Manistee, the following processes shall be used:

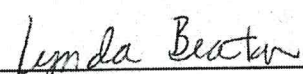
- File a claim with the Board of Review using Form 5753 Application for MCL 211.7u. Form needs to be, accompanied by federal and state tax returns **for all persons residing in the homestead** or file form 4988 Poverty Exemption Affidavit if you are not required to file a Federal Income Tax Return.
- Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
- The application for and exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of Board of Review.
- Any tax exemption given to an individual under these guidelines shall be for the one (1) year tax and a new application will be required for the next year.
- **The City of Review CANNOT Deviate from the Guidelines listed herein.**
- Must meet the federal poverty standards published annually by the State Tax Commission.
- Must meet the asset level test adopted by the City of Manistee.
- A person claiming the poverty exemption meets all the requirements of the Guidelines set by the City of Manistee's Board of Review they shall grant an exemption of 100%.

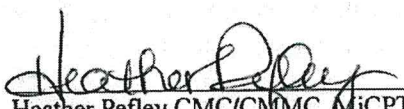
Total Liquid and non-homestead assets along with non-essential personal property shall not exceed 150% of the income listed.

- Liquid assets to be considered include cash, unrestricted deposits and accounts, securities, bonds, promissory notes, stocks, and other similar type of assets.
- A second home, land, vehicles.
- Recreational vehicles such as campers, motor-homes, boats and ATV's.
- Buildings other than residence.
- Jewelry, antiques, artwork.
- Equipment, other personal property of value.
- Bank Accounts over \$10.00, stocks.
- Money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house or car (unless a person is in the specific business of selling such property).
- Withdrawals of bank deposits and borrowed money.
- Gift's, loans, lump-sum inheritances and one-time insurance payments.
- Food or housing received in lieu of wages and the value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms.
- Federal non-cash benefit programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps and school lunches.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

**FURTHER SAYETH NOT THIS RESOLUTION**

 11/18/22  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynda Beaton, Mayor Dated

 11/18/22  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Pefley CMC/CNMC, MCPT Dated  
City Clerk



## Application for MCL 211.7u Poverty Exemption

This form is issued under the authority of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, MCL 211.7u.

MCL 211.7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, provides a property tax exemption for the principal residence of persons who, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute toward the public charges. This application is to be used to apply for the exemption and must be filed with the Board of Review where the property is located. This application may be submitted to the city or township the property is located in each year on or after January 1.

**To be considered complete, this application must:** 1) be completed in its entirety, 2) include information regarding all members residing within the household, and 3) include all required documentation as listed within the application. Please write legibly and attach additional pages as necessary.

<b>PART 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION</b> — Petitioner must list all required personal information.					
Petitioner's Name				Daytime Phone Number	
Age of Petitioner	Marital Status	Age of Spouse	Number of Legal Dependents		
Property Address of Principal Residence		City	State	ZIP Code	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if applied for Homestead Property Tax Credit		Amount of Homestead Property Tax Credit			
<b>PART 2: REAL ESTATE INFORMATION</b>					
List the real estate information related to your principal residence. Be prepared to provide a deed, land contract or other evidence of ownership of the property at the Board of Review meeting.					
Property Parcel Code Number		Name of Mortgage Company			
Unpaid Balance Owed on Principal Residence	Monthly Payment		Length of Time at this Residence		
Property Description					
<b>PART 3: ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION</b>					
List information related to any other property owned by you or any member residing in the household.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if you own, or are buying, other property. If checked, complete the information below.				Amount of Income Earned from other Property	
1	Property Address	City	State	ZIP Code	
	Name of Owner(s)	Assessed Value	Date of Last Taxes Paid	Amount of Taxes Paid	
2	Property Address	City	State	ZIP Code	
	Name of Owner(s)	Assessed Value	Date of Last Taxes Paid	Amount of Taxes Paid	

Continue on Page 2

<b>PART 4: EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION</b> — List your current employment information.					
Name of Employer					
Address of Employer		City	State	ZIP Code	
Contact Person		Employer Telephone Number			
<b>PART 5: INCOME SOURCES</b>					
List all income sources, including but not limited to: salaries, Social Security, rents, pensions, IRAs (individual retirement accounts), unemployment compensation, disability, government pensions, worker's compensation, dividends, claims and judgments from lawsuits, alimony, child support, friend or family contribution, reverse mortgage, or any other source of income, for all persons residing at the property.					
<b>Source of Income</b>			<b>Monthly or Annual Income</b> (indicate which)		
<b>PART 6: CHECKING, SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT INFORMATION</b>					
List any and all savings owned by all household members, including but not limited to: checking accounts, savings accounts, postal savings, credit union shares, certificates of deposit, cash, stocks, bonds, or similar investments, for all persons residing at the property.					
<b>Name of Financial Institution or Investments</b>	<b>Amount on Deposit</b>	<b>Current Interest Rate</b>	<b>Name on Account</b>	<b>Value of Investment</b>	
<b>PART 7: LIFE INSURANCE</b> — List all policies held by all household members.					
<b>Name of Insured</b>	<b>Amount of Policy</b>	<b>Monthly Payments</b>	<b>Policy Paid in Full</b>	<b>Name of Beneficiary</b>	<b>Relationship to Insured</b>
<b>PART 8: MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION</b>					
All motor vehicles (including motorcycles, motor homes, camper trailers, etc.) held or owned by any person residing within the household must be listed.					
<b>Make</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Monthly Payment</b>		<b>Balance Owed</b>	

PART 9: HOUSEHOLD OCCUPANTS — List all persons living in the household.				
First and Last Name	Age	Relationship to Applicant	Place of Employment	\$ Contribution to Family Income

PART 10: PERSONAL DEBT — List all personal debt for all household members.					
Creditor	Purpose of Debt	Date of Debt	Original Balance	Monthly Payment	Balance Owed

PART 11: MONTHLY EXPENSE INFORMATION			
The amount of monthly expenses related to the principal residence for each category must be listed. Indicate N/A as necessary.			
Heating	Electric	Water	Phone
Cable	Food	Clothing	Health Insurance
Garbage	Daycare	Car Expense (gas, repair, etc.)	
Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	
Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	Other (type and amount)	

Continue and sign on Page 4



**NOTICE:** Per MCL 211.7u(2)(b), federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year must be submitted with this application. Federal and state income tax returns are not required for a person residing in the principal residence if that person was not required to file a federal or state income tax return in the tax year in which the exemption under this section is claimed or in the immediately preceding tax year.

#### PART 11: POLICY AND GUIDELINES ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The governing body of the local assessing unit shall determine and make available to the public the policy and guidelines used for the granting of exemptions under MCL 211.7u. In order to be eligible for the exemption, the applicant must meet the federal poverty guidelines published in the prior calendar year in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902, or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body of the local assessing unit so long as the alternative guidelines do not provide income eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines. The policy and guidelines must include, but are not limited to, the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and total household income and assets. The combined assets of all persons must not exceed the limits set forth in the guidelines adopted by the local assessing unit.

☐ The applicant has reviewed the applicable policy and guidelines adopted by the city or township, including the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and total household income and assets.

#### PART 12: CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided in this form is complete, accurate and I am eligible for the exemption from property taxes pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law, Section 211.7u.

Printed Name	Signature	Date

**This application shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of the local unit's December Board of Review.**

**Decision of the March Board of Review may be appealed by petition to the Michigan Tax Tribunal by July 31 of the current year. A July or December Board of Review decision may be appealed to the Michigan Tax Tribunal by petition within 35 days of decision. A copy of the Board of Review decision must be included with the petition.**

Michigan Tax Tribunal  
PO Box 30232  
Lansing MI 48909

Phone: 517-335-9760  
E-mail: [taxtrib@michigan.gov](mailto:taxtrib@michigan.gov)

## Affirmation of Ownership and Occupancy to Remain Exempt by Reason of Poverty

This form is issued under the authority of Public Act 253 of 2020.

This form is to be used to affirm ownership, occupancy, and income status. MCL 211.7u(2) provides that, to be eligible for exemption under this section, a person shall, subject to subsection (6) and (8), annually affirm that the applicant owns and occupies, as a principal residence, the property for which an exemption is requested.

<b>PART 1: OWNER INFORMATION</b> — Enter information for the person owning and occupying the residence.			
Owner Name		Owner Telephone Number	
Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP Code
<b>PART 2: LEGAL DESIGNEE INFORMATION</b> (Complete if applicable.)			
Legal Designee Name		Daytime Telephone Number	
Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP Code
<b>PART 3: HOMESTEAD PROPERTY INFORMATION</b> — Enter information for property in which the exemption is being claimed.			
City or Township (check the appropriate box and enter name) <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Township <input type="checkbox"/> Village		County	
Name of Local School District			
Parcel Identification Number	Year(s) Exemption Previously Granted by Board of Review		
Homestead Property Address	City	State	ZIP Code
<b>PART 4: AFFIRMATION OF OWNERSHIP, OCCUPANCY, AND INCOME STATUS</b> (Check all boxes that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> I own the property in which the exemption is being claimed.			
<input type="checkbox"/> The property in which the exemption is being claimed is used as my homestead. Homestead is generally defined as any dwelling with its land and buildings where a family makes its home.			
<input type="checkbox"/> After establishing initial eligibility for the exemption, my income and asset status has remained unchanged and/or I receive a fixed income solely from public assistance that is not subject to significant annual increases beyond the rate of inflation, such as federal Supplemental Security Income or Social Security disability or retirement benefits.			
<b>PART 5: CERTIFICATION</b>			
I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided on this form is true and I am eligible to receive an exemption from property taxes by reason of poverty pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law, Section 211.7u.			
Owner or Legal Designee Name (print)	Signature of Owner or Legal Designee		Date
<b>Designee must attach a letter of authority.</b>			
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT USE ONLY (DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE)</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied (Attach appeal instructions and provide to owner.)		Tax Year(s) exemption will be posted to tax roll	
<b>CERTIFICATION</b> — I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this form is complete and accurate.			
Assessor Signature		Date Certified by Assessor	



## Poverty Exemption Affidavit

This form is issued under authority of Public Act 206 of 1893; MCL 211.7u.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** When completed, this document must accompany a taxpayer's Application for Poverty Exemption filed with the supervisor or the board of review of the local unit where the property is located. MCL 211.7u provides for a whole or partial property tax exemption on the principal residence of an owner of the property by reason of poverty and the inability to contribute toward the public charges. MCL 211.7u(2)(b) requires proof of eligibility for the exemption be provided to the board of review by supplying copies of federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including property tax credit returns, or by filing an affidavit for all persons residing in the residence who were not required to file federal or state income tax returns for the current or preceding tax year.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, swear and affirm by my signature below that I reside in the principal residence that is the subject of this Application for Poverty Exemption and that for the current tax year and the preceding tax year, I was not required to file a federal or state income tax return.

Address of Principal Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Making Affidavit

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date